



West Fertilizer Plant Explosion

Regional Update

April 29, 2013, 1900 CDT

- In the morning State operations briefing, the demobilization plan for responding state agencies was announced. State law enforcement assets including Texas Department of Public Safety Troopers and Texas Parks and Wildlife Game Wardens are demobilizing on April 29, 2013. As of 1800 hrs. few state law enforcement officers remained deployed in West.

- Displaced residents now have access to their properties from 0700 – 1900 daily. Residential waste from the affected properties is being placed in their respective yards and at the curb.
- A debris management coordination meeting was held with local, state and federal agencies today. FEMA facilitated the meeting and provided a best management practices presentation. The next debris management coordination meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2013 at 1000 hrs.
- On April 28, 2013, EPA obtained the most recent total number of structures evaluated that have been damaged from the explosion. This total of 214 structures includes: residential structures; schools; nursing home; and businesses. The classification system is based on the percent of total damage to the structure and number of structures is as follows: 17 structures with no damage; 0 - 1% (6); 1 - 10% (1); 10 - 30% (15); 30 - 60% (34); 60 - 100% (50); 100% (81); and, unrated 10.
- On April 29, 2013 EPA continued daytime air monitoring activities with three stationary sites to the west and north of the facility. The northern monitoring site was added to provide a downwind site during south winds. The site is approximately one half mile north of the fertilizer facility. EPA will continue monitoring for the same parameters that include volatile organic compounds and ammonia. No air monitoring readings above background were detected during today's operations.
- The public drinking water system is still being evaluated throughout the City of West. The TCEQ, State of Texas Public Works Response Team and City of West personnel continued assessing the system on April 29, 2013. A boiled water notice remains in effect.
- EPA is compiling air monitoring data for ammonia to be uploaded onto the TCEQ website. EPA Toxicologist will assess results before submitting to TCEQ.
- EPA continues to coordinate with FEMA, ATF, OSHA, CSB, TCEQ, DSHS, and the Office of the Texas State Chemist on current and future site operations.
- TCEQ contractors continued conducting 24 hour air monitoring around the facility perimeter.
- An official statement of the cause of the incident has not been released. ATF investigations into the order of events and cause of the explosion are on-going.

Personnel	EPA OSC On call	EPA RSC in Field	R6 Contractor In Field	National Criminal Enforcement Response Team Agents	EPA In REOC	Contractor In REOC	Total
Total	1	1	4	1	1	0	8

*Current as of 1900hrs 4/27. OSC's deployed with the Mobile Command Post.